

Remarks/Arguments

Entry of this preliminary amendment before examination is requested.

Claims 1-25 are pending and amended to delete reference characters in accordance with U.S. practice. Claims 6, 7, 11, 17-19, 21 and 22 are also amended to correct minor antecedent basis and clerical informalities. The Abstract is also amended to delete reference characters.

This application is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve any issues in connection with this application. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1814.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: November 14, 2006

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